

## Claims

1. (Canceled) An insect and pest shield system for gardens comprising a plurality of shield elements, each shield element in a roughly rectangular planar shape having a front surface and an opposing back surface, wherein the front surface and the opposing back surface are flat,

the shield element possessing a top edge and a bottom edge, the bottom edge of the shield element shaped in sharp ridges, the bottom edge capable of being inserted into the ground with manual pressure, the top edge of the shield element a smooth straight edge,

the front surface of the shield element covered partially with a sticky substance with embedded grit, the sticky substance with embedded grit confined to the top portions of the shield element front surface.

2. (Canceled) The insect and pest shield of claim 1, wherein the plurality of shield elements are connected to each other as a single sheet of material, the shield elements separated by means of folds in the single sheet of material.

3. (Canceled) The insect and pest shield of claim 1, wherein the plurality of shield elements are connected to each other as a single sheet of material, the shield elements separated by means of perforations in the single sheet of material.

4. (Canceled) The insect and pest shield of claim 1, wherein the sticky abrasive substance emits a bug-repelling odor.

5. (Withdrawn by election restriction) A method of applying a sticky abrasive

substance to an exterior surface of a plant reservoir, the method comprising placing the shield element in contact with a surface of a plant reservoir.

6. (Canceled) A method of applying an insect and pest shield system around a garden, the method comprising

providing a plurality of shield elements having a front side and a back side wherein the front side of each shield element is partially covered by a sticky abrasive substance, and placing the plurality of shield elements along the border of a garden.

7. (New) An insect and pest shield system for gardens comprising a plurality of shield elements, each shield element in a roughly rectangular planar shape having a front surface and an opposing back surface, wherein the front surface and the opposing back surface are flat,

each shield element possessing a top edge and a bottom edge, the bottom edge of each shield element shaped in sharp ridges, the bottom edge of each shield element capable of being inserted into the ground with manual pressure, the top edge of each shield element a smooth straight edge,

the front surface of each shield element covered partially with a sticky substance with embedded grit, the sticky substance with embedded grit confined to each shield element front surface,

the plurality of shield elements connected to each other as a single sheet of material, each shield element separated from the other by means of perforations in the single sheet of material,

whereby is provided a system of plant protection that is easy to manufacture, is flexible enough to conform to any garden area to be protected, and is easy to install.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this case, please direct any inquiries to Steven Webb at (760)635-7530, Fax (760)635-7531.

Respectfully submitted,  
Law Offices of Steven W. Webb

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven W. Webb', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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